

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph [0029] on page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

While Figs. 2-5 only illustrates one golf ball dispensing system 110, several other configurations are acceptable and within the scope of at least one embodiment. For example, one embodiment of the ball interface 410c illustrated in Figs. 1E, 15, and 16 only holds a top cap portion of the golf ball in the fixed top 212b so that the golf ball can be removed from an interface opening using only two fingers, such as the thumb and forefinger, placed at substantially opposite sides of the golf ball. In this manner, the dispensing ball interface 410c is always open. While most embodiments use different interfaces to load and dispense the golf balls, one embodiment illustrated in Fig. 1E, 15, and 16 of the ball interface uses the same opening to load and dispense the golf balls. Embodiments of the present invention may use a dispensing interface with either a vertical opening or a horizontal opening. Moreover, some embodiments may use either a horizontal opening or a vertical opening as a loading interface.

Please replace the paragraph [0037] bridging pages 14 and 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Several alternative embodiments exist for the design of a ball interface that positions the delivery point near the top of the golf ball dispenser. One exemplary additional embodiment illustrated in Figs. 1E, 15, and 16 uses a ball interface configured to hold a polar cap portion of the golf ball so that the golf ball can be removed from an interface opening using only two fingers, such as the thumb and forefinger, placed at substantially opposite sides of the golf ball. In one configuration, the interface opening is always open. Alternatively, the golf ball dispenser could be resized to accommodate other types of athletic balls, such as ping-pong balls, tennis balls, racquetballs, squash balls, handballs, baseballs, billiard balls, polo balls, basketballs, and other types of round sporting balls. Further embodiments could reshape the scoop portion 310 to accept alternatively shaped athletic balls or equipments, such as footballs, pucks, or similar equipment.